



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SUPERFUND SITE STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION - REGION 06



Site Name: T-20 Mine - NM0072

CERCLIS ID#: NMD981600489

Alias Site Name: T-9, Rimrock No. 2, Q-32

Address: Latitude 35 degrees 19'24.66" Longitude 107 degrees 49'42.46"

City/County or Parish/State/Zip: McKinley County, New Mexico



648546

Report Type: Pre-CERCLIS Screening

Date: 09/01/09

Author: NMED

RECOMMENDATION:

☐ 1. No Further Remedial Action Planned
Under Superfund (NFRAP)

☐ 2. Further Investigation Needed Under Superfund

☐ PA ☐ HRS ☐ Priority: ☐ High
☐ SI ☐ RI/FS ☐ Low
☐ ESI ☐ RA
☐ Other: _____

To be performed by: _____

☒ 3. Action Deferred to: ☐ RCRA ☐ NRC ☒ BLM

☐ 4. Site Being Addressed Under the State Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP): ☐ Yes ☐ No

NOTIFY AUTHORITY:

☐ Removal ☐ RCRA ☐ TSCA ☐ CAA ☐ SMCRA
☐ Remedial ☐ State/Tribe ☐ NPDES ☐ NRC ☒ Resource Trustee: BLM
☐ CERCLA ☐ Federal ☐ UIC ☐ SPCC ☐ Other: _____
Enforcement Facility

SEND SSSR COPIES TO: ☐ 6SF-AC ☐ 6WQ-SP ☐ ATSDR ☒ State Agency ☐ Tribal Agency

DISCUSSION:

The New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Mine and Minerals Division (MMD) conducted a site assessment on August 22, 2007 at the T-20 Mine site. The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted a site assessment on July 2, 2009. The mine operated as a wet mine. NMED observed piles of limestone waste rock with a maximum gamma radiation measurement reading of 859 counts per second deposited along surface drainages, two collapsed mineshafts, and an area of gridded drill holes adjacent to one of the mineshafts. There are several residences within three miles of the mine site, and the closest well is an irrigation well approximately one mile with a total uranium concentration of 48.2 ug/l. The land surface and mineral rights are held by the Bureau of Land Management.

NMED recommended that action be taken at the site to remove waste piles with elevated radioactivity and to plug the open shafts. NMED also recommended that the mine site be further assessed under CERCLA to characterize the extent of site-derived waste dispersion along the drainages and impacts to groundwater.

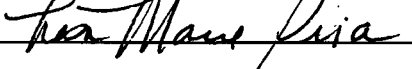
In October 2011, EPA conducted an aerial radiological survey in the Poison Canyon area of the Ambrosia Lake sub-district by using the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT). The T-20 Mine was included in the ASPECT survey. The gamma radiation readings at the T-20 Mine site were two to three times statistically greater than background readings in the area.

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between EPA and the New Mexico State Office of the Bureau of Land

Management, August 2011, the T-20 Mine will be addressed by the Bureau of Land Management.

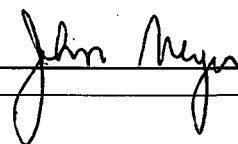
APPROVALS:

Report Reviewed by: Lisa Marie Price
(Site Assessment Manager)

Signature: 

Date: 11/25/11

Disposition
Approved by: John Meyer
(Section Chief 6SF-TR)

Signature: 

Date: 11/29/11